

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-8, 17, 18, and 27 (cancelled)

9. (currently amended) An electronic information management system for abstracting and reporting contract information, comprising:

- (a) a computer communicating with an electronic database;
- (b) an input device operatively connected to said computer for entering contract information into said database;
- (c) a plurality of electronic indexing tags at predetermined locations within the stored contract information and cooperating with a computer program to ~~capture and retrieve~~ identify selected sections of the contract information;
- (d) a section summary prepared for each of the indexed contract sections, said summary being recorded in a field electronically linked to at least one of said indexing tags, whereby a user viewing said section summary can drill down into the stored contract information to retrieve the contract section corresponding to said at least one electronically linked indexing tag; and
- (e) a display device operatively connected to said computer for ~~simultaneously~~ displaying said section summary and the corresponding contract section.

10. (original) An electronic information management system according to claim 9, wherein said database comprises a plurality of contract abstracting fields adapted for being populated by the user based on data contained in the contract information.

11. (original) An electronic information management system according to claim 10, wherein the contract information comprises a commercial real estate lease.

12. (original) An electronic information management system according to claim 11, wherein said database comprises a plurality of separate electronic records containing a corresponding plurality of commercial real estate leases stored in said database.

13. (original) An electronic information management system according to claim 12, wherein the data recorded in said contract abstracting fields is selected from a data group consisting of tenant identification, landlord identification, lease term dates, leased space information, landlord costs, minimum rent, recurring charges, percentage rent, non-financial, contacts, lease issues, renewal options, security deposits, late fees, and estoppels.

14. (original) An electronic information management system according to claim 13, and comprising means for generating a customized report of data contained in selected ones of the contract abstracting fields.

15. (original) An electronic information management system according to claim 9, wherein said section summary comprises a copied portion of the tagged section of contract information.

16. (original) An electronic information management system according to claim 9, wherein said electronic database is accessible by multiple users at the same time via a global communications network.

19. (currently amended) An electronic information management process for abstracting and reporting contract information, said process comprising the steps of:

- (a) entering contract information into an electronic database;
- (b) inserting a plurality of electronic indexing tags at predetermined locations within the stored contract information, the indexing tags cooperating with a computer program to ~~capture and retrieve~~ identify selected sections of the contract information;
- (c) preparing a section summary for each of the indexed contract sections, the section summary being recorded in a field of the database;
- (d) electronically linking the section summary field to at least one of the indexing tags, whereby a user viewing the section summary can drill down into the stored contract information to retrieve the contract section corresponding to the at least one electronically linked indexing tag; and
- (e) ~~simultaneously~~ displaying to the user the section summary and the corresponding contract section.

20. (original) An electronic information management process according to claim 19, and comprising the step of populating a plurality of contract abstracting fields of the database based on data contained in the contract information.

21. (original) An electronic information management process according to claim 20, wherein the contract information comprises a commercial real estate lease.

22. (original) An electronic information management process according to claim 21, and comprising the step of creating a plurality of separate electronic records for a corresponding plurality of commercial real estate leases stored in the database.

23. (original) An electronic information management process according to claim 22, wherein the data recorded in the contract abstracting fields is selected from a data group consisting of tenant identification, landlord identification, lease term dates, leased space information, landlord costs, minimum rent, recurring charges, percentage rent, non-financial, contacts, lease issues, renewal options, security deposits, late fees, and estoppels.

24. (original) An electronic information management process according to claim 23, and comprising the step of generating a customized report of data contained in selected ones of the contract abstracting fields.

25. (original) An electronic information management process according to claim 19, and comprising the step of copying a portion of the tagged section of contract information into the section summary.

26. (original) An electronic information management process according to claim 19, and comprising the step of making the electronic database accessible to multiple users via a global communications network.

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The undersigned greatly appreciates the courtesies extended by Examiners James Blackwell and William Bashore during the personal interview on July 29, 2004 at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Applicant's representatives Scott Schubert and Dan Roehl discussed the general concept of the invention and provided an on-line demonstration illustrating the system's various features. The prior art Miller, Vogel, and Kupiec patents were also discussed during the interview.

Claims 1-27 in the case are pending. Claims 1-8, 17, 18, and 27 are cancelled herein. Pending claim 9, 15, 19, and 25 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Miller ('653) in view of Vogel ('982), and further in view of Kupiec ('822). Pending claims 10-14 and 20-24 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as